

Love That Science Bowl!

Annual competition has huge following

None of us is too thrilled about giving up a Saturday for something that's not essential to our usually packed weekend agenda. But Science Bowl, well, that's another matter!

Annually, on the last Saturday in January, approximately 48 high school teams and 75 Ames Laboratory and Iowa State University volunteers take over every available room in the Memorial Union to participate in the daylong science competition. Happily, no one seems to mind losing a little extra sleep on a Saturday morning, putting off household tasks, postponing study plans, or even missing Saturday morning cartoons to take part in the exhilarating event. And this year was no exception.

Although conflicts in student schedules and the flu virus caused four schools to drop out, 44 Iowa high school teams showed up for the Jan. 25th competition. But it was Cedar Rapids Washington High School that came from behind in the closing seconds of the championship match to win the 2003 Ames Laboratory/Iowa State University Regional High School Science Bowl. Washington defeated Central Academy of Des Moines, 40-30 in the finals, winning all 10 of its matches to advance to the



A tough toss-up question perplexes the Central Academy (Des Moines) team. The team took second place overall.

U.S. Department of Energy's National Science Bowl, to be held May 1-5 in Washington, D.C. Ames High took third place, defeating Cedar Falls High School, last year's defending champion.

Many of the schools participate in Science Bowl year after year. "It's our favorite competition of the year," said Phyllis Bishop, Science Bowl coach from Chariton High School. "It's always so well planned and run in a very efficient manner."

Coach Rhonda Thompson of Decorah High School said, "Thank you for the Science Bowl experience. My team of rookies really enjoyed it, felt proud to have done OK against mostly older teams, and are already looking forward to next year."

Volunteers, too, find they enjoy the Science Bowl experience and the opportunity to interact with so many smart and gifted students. "Working with youth and promoting science education is one way I can 'pay back' for support I received," said

Donald Lewis, an ISU entomology professor and a longtime Science Bowl volunteer. "Reading questions at Science Bowl helps keep me humble. These students are so bright and talented and they know so much about so many different things. I am awed by their abilities and reminded of my own limitations."

Jeff Bradshaw, an ISU entomology graduate student and a new Science Bowl volunteer this year, said, "I very much enjoyed the Science Bowl. I felt that all the teams I judged were very prepared, and the sportsmanship was great. Overall, the experience was great — I look forward to next year!"

Although many of the people who volunteer for Science Bowl

have scientific backgrounds, just as many don't. "There are tasks available for everyone, such as timekeeping and scorekeeping," said Ellen Price, an Ames Lab account specialist who just completed her fourth year as a timekeeper for the competition. "Since you don't have to be a scientist or need special skills to help, it's something I can do, and it's also an opportunity to represent Ames Lab in a positive way." Price said she enjoys the opportunity Science Bowl provides to interact with people from all over campus. "Working in an office, I don't always get to see all the people who really make Ames Lab and ISU what they are. Volunteering for Science Bowl gives me the opportunity to meet a few of them. It's a fun and energetic atmosphere, and it's interesting to hear part of the competition and see all the high school teams that come to participate."

So you see, there's no reason you, too, can't become a part of the Science Bowl family. The 2004 competition will be Saturday, Jan. 31, so plan ahead — mark your calendars and watch for the request for volunteers in the October issue of *Insider!* ■

~ Saren Johnston



Members of the Ames High team confer on a 10-point bonus question. On the left is Martin Jankowiak, son of Ames Lab scientist Ryszard Jankowiak.



The students and coach from Solon High School make a Science Bowl fashion statement in their matching T-shirts that identify them as members of Joe's team. Although you can't see it in this photo, the coach's shirt reads, "I'm Joe's coach."

None Better

Great volunteers make a great event



"I can't believe I did that!" Perhaps Joe Hove, captain of the Solon team, forgot to wait until the moderator recognized him before giving his answer, a definite Science Bowl "no-no" as the question is then offered to the opposing team.

The "almost-all-girl" team from Tri-Center Neola confers on a bonus question during the Science Bowl morning round-robin competition.



Surprise, relief, exhilaration — Cedar Rapids Washington coach Heather Adams displays some of each emotion as her team wins the 2003 Science Bowl.



The Science Bowl winning team from Cedar Rapids Washington High School, left to right: Jeff Barnes, Ashley Noreuil, Jake Thomas, Krystal Garringer and Aaron McDowell. The team will be one of 66 teams to compete at the National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C., May 1-5.

An enormous thank-you goes out to the following individuals who volunteered their time, expertise, cooperation and good humor to help stage another outstanding Ames Laboratory/Iowa State University High School Science Bowl. The comments made in a thank-you note from Janis Myers, coach of the Spencer High Science Bowl team, show how genuinely your efforts are appreciated.

"Thank you for your kindness in hosting the 2003 Science Quiz Bowl. We appreciate the time, energy, and financial support that you gave to the education of Iowa students. Our students came back so enthused that other students wish to become involved next year. I believe that our science teachers and science students have an added motivation to pay greater attention to scientific facts and to go beyond current curriculum. Thanks so much."

Christine Aikens	Angie Kendall
Adam Allington	Ricky Kendall
Jim Anderegg	Ken Kerns
Iver Anderson	Nick Kiley
Kyle Anderson	Matt Kramer
Vladimir Antropov	Tom Kula
Stan Bajic	Kay Lampe Hannasch
Tom Barton	Donald Lewis
Diane Bassham	Nick Liker
Brandon Bell	James Loftus
Meredith Berger	Barb Lograsso
Kathryn Bergman	Tom Lograsso
Bryan Bird	Mark Maffett
Kim Bode	Lindsey McFarland
Jeff Bradshaw	Elizabeth McKinney
Jim Brazelton	Bob Mills
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Paul Canfield	Mark Murphy
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Scott Chumbley	Craig Ogilve
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